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Human Rights Council
Twenty-fifth session
Agenda item 3
Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development

Angola,* Argentina, Austria, Belgium,* Bolivia (Plurinational State of),* Bosnia and Herzegovina,* Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia,* Cuba, Cyprus,* Denmark,* Ecuador,* Egypt,* El Salvador,* Estonia, Finland,* France, Germany, Greece,* Honduras,* Hungary,* Ireland, Italy, Latvia,* Lithuania,* Luxembourg,* Mexico, Montenegro, Mozambique,* Netherlands,* Norway,* Panama,* Paraguay,* Peru, Portugal,* Romania, Slovakia,* Slovenia,* Spain,* State of Palestine*, Switzerland,* the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste,* Tunisia,* Uruguay,* Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam: draft resolution

25/... Question of the realization in all countries of economic, social and cultural rights

The Human Rights Council,

Guided by the principles of economic, social and cultural rights enshrined in international human rights instruments, including the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,

Recalling that the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, the 2005 World Summit Outcome and General Assembly resolution 60/251 of 15 March 2006, in which the Assembly established the Human Rights Council, all affirm that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interrelated, interdependent and mutually reinforcing and must be treated in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis, and recalling also that the promotion and protection of one category of rights should never exempt States from the promotion and protection of the other rights,

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration, in which the Heads of State and Government affirmed their commitment to spare no effort to promote democracy and strengthen the rule of law, as well as respect for all internationally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development,

* Non-member State of the Human Rights Council.

Recalling further its resolutions on the question of the realization in all countries of economic, social and cultural rights, and the resolutions adopted by the Commission on Human Rights on the same topic,

Reaffirming the obligations and commitments to take steps, individually and through international assistance and cooperation, especially economic and technical, to the maximum of available resources, with a view to achieving progressively the full realization of economic, social and cultural rights by all appropriate means, including particularly the adoption of legislative measures,

Recognizing that the entry into force of, inter alia, the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, on 5 May 2013, is a step forward in strengthening the promotion and protection of economic, social and cultural rights worldwide,

Underlining the imperative need to accelerate efforts towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, and recognizing the crucial importance of giving due consideration to the realization of economic, social and cultural rights in the elaboration of the post-2015 development agenda,

Underlining also the human rights principles of, inter alia, non-discrimination, human dignity, equity, equality, universality and participation, as affirmed in international human rights law and in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, and emphasizing that the rights enunciated in the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights are to be realized in a non-discriminatory manner,

1. *Calls upon* all States to give full effect to economic, social and cultural rights by, inter alia, taking all appropriate measures to implement Human Rights Council resolutions on the question of the realization in all countries of economic, social and cultural rights, the most recent of which is resolution 22/5 of 21 March 2013;

2. *Calls upon* all States that have not yet signed and ratified the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights to consider doing so, and calls upon States parties to consider reviewing their reservations thereto;

3. *Welcomes* the entry into force of the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on 5 May 2013 and the fact that 12 States have become parties to the Optional Protocol, as well as that 45 have signed it, and encourages all States that have not yet signed and ratified the Optional Protocol to consider doing so and also to consider making declarations under articles 10 and 11;

4. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the question of the realization in all countries of economic, social and cultural rights,[1] with a special focus on access to justice relating to violations of economic, social and cultural rights, submitted pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 22/5, and of the recommendations contained therein;

5. *Underlines* the importance of an effective remedy for violations of economic, social and cultural rights and, in this regard, of judicial, quasi-judicial and other appropriate remedies, accessible on an individual or, as appropriate, collective basis, and of adequate procedures to avoid infringements of such rights;

6. *Encourages* States to ensure that effective judicial, quasi-judicial and other appropriate remedies for violations of economic, social and cultural rights are accessible to

[1] A/HRC/25/31.

everyone without discrimination, including such aspects as physical accessibility, affordability, access to information, equality of access and necessary legal assistance;

7. *Calls upon* States to ensure due process in remedies relating to economic, social and cultural rights;

8. *Welcomes* the steps taken at the national level to implement economic, social and cultural rights, including the enactment of appropriate legislation and adjudication by national courts;

9. *Reiterates* that respect for and the promotion and protection of human rights are an integral part of effective work towards achieving internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and emphasizes the central role of the United Nations in enhancing global partnerships for development with a view to creating a supportive global environment for the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals, as well as the importance of giving due consideration to equality, social protection and accountability in the context of the realization of economic, social and cultural rights in the elaboration of the post-2015 development agenda;

10. *Underlines* the importance of the joint United Nations Social Protection Floor Initiative for the realization of economic, social and cultural rights and, in this regard, acknowledges the adoption by the International Labour Conference of recommendation No. 202 (2012) concerning national floors of social protection;

11. *Notes with interest* the work carried out by the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights to assist States parties in fulfilling their obligations, including through the submission of general comments and the consideration of periodic reports;

12. *Also notes with interest* the work of other relevant treaty bodies and special procedures in the promotion and protection of economic, social and cultural rights within their respective mandates;

13. *Encourages* enhanced cooperation and, as appropriate, increased coordination between the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and United Nations bodies, specialized agencies and programmes, mechanisms of the Human Rights Council and other human rights treaty bodies whose activities have a bearing on economic, social and cultural rights, in a manner that respects their distinctive mandates and promotes their policies, programmes and projects;

14. *Recognizes and encourages* the important contributions of regional organizations, national human rights institutions and civil society, including non-governmental organizations and academic and research institutions, to the question of the realization and enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights;

15. *Welcomes* the activities carried out by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the promotion of economic, social and cultural rights, mainly through technical cooperation, the work of its field offices, its relevant reports to United Nations bodies, the development of in-house expertise, including on human rights indicators, and its publications and studies on related issues;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to prepare and submit to the Human Rights Council an annual report on the question of the realization in all countries of economic, social and cultural rights under agenda item 3, with a special focus on the importance of social protection floors for the realization of economic, social and cultural rights;

17. *Decides* to remain seized of this issue and to consider taking further action in order to implement the present resolution.

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Human Rights Council
Twenty-fifth session
Agenda item 4
Human rights situations that require the Council's attention

Albania,* Andorra,* Australia,* Austria, Belgium,* Bosnia and Herzegovina,* Bulgaria,* Canada,* Croatia,* Cyprus,* Czech Republic, Denmark,* Estonia, Finland,* France, Georgia,* Germany, Greece,* Hungary,* Iceland,* Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia,* Liechtenstein,* Lithuania,* Luxembourg,* Malta,* Monaco,* Montenegro, Netherlands,* New Zealand,* Norway,* Poland,* Portugal,* Republic of Korea, Romania, Slovakia,* Slovenia,* Spain,* Sweden,* Switzerland,* Turkey,* United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Sates of America: draft resolution

25/... Situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

The Human Rights Council,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenants on Human Rights and other human rights instruments,

Recalling all previous resolutions adopted by the Commission on Human Rights, the Human Rights Council and the General Assembly on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, including Council resolution 22/13 of 21 March 2013 and Assembly resolution 68/183 of 18 December 2013, and urging the implementation of those resolutions,

Bearing in mind paragraph 3 of General Assembly resolution 60/251 of 15 March 2006,

Recalling Human Rights Council resolutions 5/1, on institution-building of the Council, and 5/2, on the Code of Conduct for Special Procedures Mandate Holders of the Council, of 18 June 2007, and stressing that the mandate holder shall discharge his/her duties in accordance with those resolutions and the annexes thereto,

Commending the commission of inquiry on human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for completing its work in a transparent, impartial and consultative

* Non-Member State of the Human Rights Council.

manner,[1] despite the efforts of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to reduce access to information by refusing to permit the commission to visit the country,

Acknowledging the efforts of the commission of inquiry to ensure the full transparency of the inquiry by providing comprehensive information on its work to the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, as well as through the invitations to the representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to public hearings,

Deeply regretting the refusal of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to extend any cooperation to the commission of inquiry and the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, including access to the country,

Stressing the significance of first-hand accounts by victims and witnesses who delivered testimonies at public hearings and confidential interviews held by the commission,

Recalling the call made by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in her statement on 18 February 2014, to the international community to use all the mechanisms at its disposal to ensure accountability, including referral to the International Criminal Court,

Deeply concerned at the systematic, widespread and gross human rights violations in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea that, in many instances, constitute crime against humanity, as well as at the impunity of perpetrators, as described in the report of the commission of inquiry,

Expressing its serious concern at the refusal of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to articulate, by the time of the adoption by the Human Rights Council of the outcome report of its universal periodic review in March 2010, which recommendations enjoyed its support, and regretting the lack of action taken by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to date to implement the recommendations contained in that report,

Concerned that the precarious humanitarian situation in the country is exacerbated by the failure of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to provide humanitarian agencies with free and unimpeded access to all populations in need and by its national policy priorities that, among others, prioritize military spending over citizens' access to food,

Reaffirming that it is the responsibility of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to ensure the full enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms of its entire population, including by ensuring equal access to adequate food, as well as, among others, freedom of religion or belief, freedom of expression and freedom of association and assembly,

Recognizing that particular risk factors affect women, children, persons with disabilities and the elderly, and the need to ensure the full enjoyment of all their human rights and fundamental freedoms by them against neglect, abuse, exploitation and violence,

Reaffirming the importance of States' engaging fully and constructively with the Human Rights Council, including with the universal periodic review process and with other mechanisms of the Council, for the improvement of their situation of human rights,

[1] See A/HRC/25/63 and A/HRC/25/CRP.1.

1. *Welcomes* the report of the commission of inquiry on human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea,[1] and reaffirms that the report should be transmitted to all relevant bodies of the United Nations and the Secretary-General for appropriate action,

2. *Condemns in the strongest terms* the long-standing and ongoing systematic, widespread and gross human rights violations and other human rights abuses committed in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and expresses its grave concern at the detailed findings made by the commission of inquiry in its report, including:

(*a*) The denial of the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion, as well as of the rights to freedom of opinion, expression and association, which is enforced through an absolute monopoly on information and total control over organized social life, as well as arbitrary and unlawful State surveillance that permeates the private lives of all citizens;

(*b*) Discrimination based on the *songbun* system, which classifies people on the basis of State-assigned social class and birth, and also includes consideration of political opinions and religion; discrimination against women, including unequal access to employment, discriminatory laws and regulations, and violence against women;

(*c*) Violations of all aspects of the right to freedom of movement, including forced assignment to State-designated places of residence and employment, often based on the *songbun* system, and denial of the right to leave one's own country;

(*d*) Systematic, widespread and grave violations of the right to food and related aspects of the right to life, exacerbated by widespread hunger and malnutrition;

(*e*) Violations of the right to life and acts of extermination, murder, enslavement, torture, imprisonment, rape and other grave forms of sexual violence and persecution on political, religious and gender grounds in political prison camps and ordinary prisons, and the widespread practice of collective punishment with harsh sentences imposed on innocent individuals;

(*f*) Systematic abduction, denial of repatriation and subsequent enforced disappearance of persons, including those from other countries, on a large scale and as a matter of State policy;

3. *Urges* the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to acknowledge the human rights violations in the country and to take immediate steps to end all such violations and abuses through, inter alia, the implementation of relevant recommendations in the report of the commission of inquiry, including, but not limited to, the following steps:

(*a*) To ensure the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion, as well as the rights to freedom of opinion, expression and association, including by permitting the establishment of independent newspapers and other media;

(*b*) To end discrimination against citizens, including State-sponsored discrimination based on the *songbun* system, and to take immediate steps to ensure gender equality and to protect women from gender-based violence;

(*c*) To ensure the right to freedom of movement, including the freedom to choose one's place of residence and employment;

(*d*) To promote equal access to food, including through full transparency regarding the provision of humanitarian assistance, so that such assistance is genuinely provided to vulnerable persons;

(*e*) To immediately halt all human right violations relating to prison camps, including the practice of forced labour, to dismantle all political prison camps and release all political prisoners, and to ensure that justice sector reforms provide protections for a fair trial and due process;

(*f*) To allow all persons who have been abducted or otherwise forcibly disappeared, as well as their descendants, to return immediately to their countries of origin;

4. *Expresses deep concern* at the commission's findings concerning the situation of refugees and asylum seekers returned to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and other citizens of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea who have been repatriated from abroad and made subject to sanctions, including internment, torture, cruel, inhumane and degrading treatment, sexual violence, enforced disappearance or the death penalty, and in this regard strongly urges all States to respect the fundamental principle of non-refoulement, to treat humanely those who seek refuge and to ensure unhindered access to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and his Office, with a view to protecting the human rights of those who seek refuge, and once again urges State parties to comply with their obligations under international human rights law as well as the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and the 1967 Protocol thereto in relation to persons from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea who are covered by those instruments;

5. *Acknowledges and is deeply troubled* by the commission's finding that the body of testimony gathered and the information received provided reasonable grounds to believe that crimes against humanity have been committed in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, pursuant to policies established at the highest level of the State for decades; these crimes against humanity entail extermination, murder, enslavement, torture, imprisonment, rape, forced abortions and other sexual violence, persecution on political, religious, racial and gender grounds, the forcible transfer of populations, the enforced disappearance of persons and the inhumane act of knowingly causing prolonged starvation;

6. *Stresses* that the authorities of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea have failed to prosecute those responsible for crimes against humanity and other human rights violations, and encourages the members of the international community to cooperate with accountability efforts and to ensure that these crimes do not remain unpunished;

7. *Recommends* that the General Assembly submit the report of the commission of inquiry to the Security Council for its consideration and appropriate action in order that those responsible for human rights violations, including those that may amount to crimes against humanity, are held to account, including through consideration of referral of the situation in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the appropriate international criminal justice mechanism, and consideration of the scope for effective targeted sanctions against those who appear to be most responsible for crimes against humanity, taking into account the relevant conclusions and recommendations of the commission of inquiry;

8. *Decides* to extend the mandate of the Special Rapporteur of the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in accordance with 22/13 for a period of one year;

9. *Calls upon* all parties concerned, including United Nations bodies, to consider implementation of the recommendations made by the commission of inquiry in its report in order to address the dire human rights situation in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea;

10. *Requests* the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to follow up urgently on the recommendations made by the commission of inquiry in its report, and to provide the Special Rapporteur with increased support, including

through the establishment of a field-based structure to strengthen monitoring and documentation of the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, to ensure accountability, to enhance engagement and capacity-building with the Governments of all States concerned, civil society and other stakeholders, and to maintain visibility of the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, including through sustained communications, advocacy and outreach initiatives;

11. *Also requests* the Office of the High Commissioner to report on its follow-up efforts in the regular annual report of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, effective as of the sixty-ninth session of the Assembly;

12. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to submit regular reports to the Human Rights Council and to the General Assembly on the implementation of his mandate, including on the follow-up efforts made in the implementation of the recommendations of the commission of inquiry;

13. *Urges* the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to invite and to cooperate fully with the Special Rapporteur, and to give the Special Rapporteur and supporting staff unrestricted access to visit the country, and to provide them with all information necessary to enable them to fulfil such a mandate;

14. *Also urges* the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to participate in its universal periodic review in 2014 in a constructive manner, to commence an open and inclusive review of the situation of human rights in the country, and to provide clear responses to the recommendations presented during the review, without undue delay;

15. *Encourages* the United Nations, including its specialized agencies, States, regional intergovernmental organizations, interested institutions, independent experts and non-governmental organizations to develop constructive dialogue and cooperation with special procedure mandate holders, including the Special Rapporteur, and the field-based structure of the Office of the High Commissioner;

16. *Encourages* all States who have relations with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to use their influence to encourage it to take immediate steps to end all human rights violations, including by closing political prison camps and undertaking profound institutional reforms;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Special Rapporteur with all assistance and adequate staffing necessary to carry out his/her mandate effectively and to ensure that the mandate holder receives the support of the Office of the High Commissioner;

18. *Decides* to transmit all reports of the Special Rapporteur to all relevant bodies of the United Nations and to the Secretary-General for appropriate action.

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Human Rights Council
Twenty-fifth session
Agenda item 3
Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development

Austria, Belgium,* Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of),* Bosnia and Herzegovina,* Chile, Colombia,* Costa Rica, Croatia,* Cyprus,* Denmark,* Ecuador,* Estonia, Finland,* France, Georgia,* Germany, Greece,* Guatemala,* Honduras,* Hungary,* Iceland,* Ireland, Italy, Latvia,* Lithuania,* Luxembourg,* Maldives, Mexico, Montenegro, Netherlands,* Norway,* Panama,* Paraguay,* Peru, Poland,* Portugal,* Romania, Senegal,* Serbia,* Slovakia,* Slovenia,* Spain,* Sweden,* Switzerland,* the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Uruguay,* Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of): draft resolution

25/... Adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living

The Human Rights Council,

Reaffirming that international human rights law instruments, including the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, entail obligations and commitments of States parties in relation to access to adequate housing,

Recalling all previous resolutions adopted by the Commission on Human Rights on the issue of women's equal rights to ownership of, access to and control over land and the equal rights to own property and to adequate housing, including resolution 2005/25 of 15 April 2005,

Recalling also its resolutions 5/1, on institution-building of the Human Rights Council, and 5/2, on the Code of Conduct for Special Procedures Mandate Holders of the Council, of 18 June 2007, and stressing that the mandate holder shall discharge his/her duties in accordance with those resolutions and the annexes thereto,

* Non-member State of the Human Rights Council.

Reaffirming all its previous resolutions, as well as those adopted by the Commission on Human Rights on the issue of adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, including Council resolution 19/4 of 22 March 2012,

Reaffirming also the principles and commitments with regard to adequate housing enshrined in the relevant provisions of declarations and programmes adopted by major United Nations conferences and summits and at special sessions of the General Assembly and at their follow-up meetings, inter alia, the Istanbul Declaration on Human Settlements and the Habitat Agenda,[1] and the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium, adopted at the twenty-fifth special session of the Assembly and annexed to its resolution S-25/2 of 9 June 2001,

Noting the work of the United Nations treaty bodies, in particular the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, in the promotion of the rights related to adequate housing, including its general comments Nos. 4, 7, 9, 16 and 20,

Recalling the Global Housing Strategy of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, the principles on housing and property restitution for refugees and displaced persons[2] and the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security,

Concerned that more than 860 million people are still living in unserviced and unplanned urban poor settlements, up from 725 million in 2000; that, despite the significant efforts to improve the living conditions of urban settlement dwellers, the net growth in the number of people living in these settlements continues to outpace the improvements; and that persons living in such conditions are particularly vulnerable to, inter alia, disease, natural and man-made disasters, unemployment and a lack of education,

Deeply concerned that, in recent years, millions of homeowners have been affected by foreclosures and that high foreclosure rates may have an impact on the enjoyment of the right to adequate housing, and equally concerned that, in recent years, there has been an increase in private housing rentals for the urban poor without a balanced framework to protect tenants and owners, and that rental options for the urban poor are still insufficient and inadequate,

Deeply concerned that any deterioration in the general housing situation disproportionately affects persons living in conditions of poverty, low-income earners, women, children, persons belonging to minorities and indigenous peoples, migrants, internally displaced persons, tenants, the elderly, persons with disabilities and other persons belonging to marginalized groups or persons belonging to groups in vulnerable situations, and that tenure insecurity per se might result in discrimination and further exclusion, particularly social and economic exclusion,

Recognizing that security of tenure enhances the enjoyment of the right to adequate housing and is significant to the enjoyment of many other economic, social, cultural, civil and political rights, and that all persons should possess a degree of security of tenure that guarantees legal protection against forced eviction, harassment and other threats,

Recognizing also the need to promote, protect and strengthen a variety of tenure forms, as part of mainstreaming human rights, in particular in urban development, including in housing and slum upgrading, urban planning, land management and land administration policies, to ensure social integration, with the full participation of all relevant stakeholders,

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[1] A/CONF.165/14.

[2] E/CN.4/Sub.2/2005/17, annex.

1. *Welcomes* the work of the Special Rapporteur on adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, and on the right to non-discrimination in this context, including the undertaking of country missions;

2. *Acknowledges with appreciation* in particular the report of the Special Rapporteur on security of tenure for the urban poor[3] and the guiding principles on security of tenure for the urban poor as laid out therein, and encourages States to take these guidelines into account when planning and implementing measures to improve the security of tenure for the urban poor;

3. *Calls upon* States to give due consideration to the human right to adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living and to issues related to universal access to decent and sustainable housing in the elaboration of the post-2015 development agenda;

4. *Decides* to extend, for a period of three years, the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, and on the right to non-discrimination in this context, as set out in Human Rights Council resolution 15/8 of 30 September 2010;

5. *Notes* the work on the basic principles and guidelines on development-based evictions and displacement and the need to continue to work on them, including through consultations with States and other stakeholders;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to provide all necessary assistance to the Special Rapporteur for the effective fulfilment of his or her mandate;

7. *Notes with appreciation* the cooperation extended to date to the Special Rapporteur by different actors, and calls upon States:

(*a*) To continue to cooperate with the Special Rapporteur in the discharge of his or her mandate and to respond favourably to his or her requests for information and visits;

(*b*) To enter into a constructive dialogue with the Special Rapporteur with respect to the follow-up to and implementation of his or her recommendations;

8. *Decides* to continue its consideration of this matter under the same agenda item.

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[3] A/HRC/25/54.

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Human Rights Council
Twenty-fifth session
Agenda item 3
Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development

Austria, Belgium,* Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of),* Bosnia and Herzegovina,* Chile, Colombia,* Costa Rica, Croatia,* Cyprus,* Denmark,* Ecuador,* El Salvador,* Estonia, Finland,* France, Georgia,* Germany, Greece,* Guatemala,* Honduras,* Hungary,* Iceland,* Ireland, Italy, Latvia,* Lithuania,* Luxembourg,* Maldives, Mexico, Montenegro, Netherlands,* Norway,* Panama,* Paraguay,* Peru, Poland,* Portugal,* Romania, Senegal,* Serbia,* Slovakia,* Slovenia,* Spain,* Sweden,* Switzerland,* the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Uruguay,* Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of): draft resolution

25/... Adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living

The Human Rights Council,

Reaffirming that international human rights law instruments, including the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, entail obligations and commitments of States parties in relation to access to adequate housing,

Recalling all previous resolutions adopted by the Commission on Human Rights on the issue of women's equal rights to ownership of, access to and control over land and the equal rights to own property and to adequate housing, including resolution 2005/25 of 15 April 2005,

Recalling also its resolutions 5/1, on institution-building of the Human Rights Council, and 5/2, on the Code of Conduct for Special Procedures Mandate Holders of the Council, of 18 June 2007, and stressing that the mandate holder shall discharge his/her duties in accordance with those resolutions and the annexes thereto,

* Non-member State of the Human Rights Council.

Reaffirming all its previous resolutions, as well as those adopted by the Commission on Human Rights on the issue of adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, including Council resolution 19/4 of 22 March 2012,

Reaffirming also the principles and commitments with regard to adequate housing enshrined in the relevant provisions of declarations and programmes adopted by major United Nations conferences and summits and at special sessions of the General Assembly and at their follow-up meetings, inter alia, the Istanbul Declaration on Human Settlements and the Habitat Agenda,[1] and the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium, adopted at the twenty-fifth special session of the Assembly and annexed to its resolution S-25/2 of 9 June 2001,

Noting the work of the United Nations treaty bodies, in particular the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, in the promotion of the rights related to adequate housing, including all its relevant general comments,

Recalling the Global Housing Strategy of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, the principles on housing and property restitution for refugees and displaced persons[2] and the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security,

Concerned that more than 860 million people are still living in unserviced and unplanned urban poor settlements, up from 725 million in 2000; that, despite the significant efforts to improve the living conditions of urban settlement dwellers, the net growth in the number of people living in these settlements continues to outpace the improvements; and that persons living in such conditions are particularly vulnerable to, inter alia, disease, natural and man-made disasters, unemployment and a lack of education,

Deeply concerned that, in recent years, millions of homeowners have been affected by foreclosures and that high foreclosure rates may have an impact on the enjoyment of the right to adequate housing, and equally concerned that, in recent years, there has been an increase in private housing rentals for the urban poor without a balanced framework to protect tenants and owners, and that rental options for the urban poor are still insufficient and inadequate,

Deeply concerned that any deterioration in the general housing situation disproportionately affects persons living in conditions of poverty, low-income earners, women, children, persons belonging to minorities and indigenous peoples, migrants, internally displaced persons, tenants, the elderly, persons with disabilities and other persons belonging to marginalized groups or persons belonging to groups in vulnerable situations, and that tenure insecurity per se might result in discrimination and further exclusion, particularly social and economic exclusion,

Recognizing that security of tenure enhances the enjoyment of the right to adequate housing and is significant to the enjoyment of many other economic, social, cultural, civil and political rights, and that all persons should possess a degree of security of tenure that guarantees legal protection against forced eviction, harassment and other threats,

Recognizing also the need to promote, protect and strengthen a variety of tenure forms, as part of mainstreaming human rights, in particular in urban development, including in housing and slum upgrading, urban planning, land management and land administration policies, to ensure social integration, with the full participation of all relevant stakeholders,

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[1] A/CONF.165/14.

[2] E/CN.4/Sub.2/2005/17, annex.

1. *Welcomes* the work of the Special Rapporteur on adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, and on the right to non-discrimination in this context, including the undertaking of country missions;

2. *Acknowledges with appreciation* in particular the report of the Special Rapporteur on security of tenure for the urban poor[3] and the guiding principles on security of tenure for the urban poor as laid out therein, and encourages States to take these guidelines into account when planning and implementing measures to improve the security of tenure for the urban poor;

3. *Calls upon* States to give due consideration to the human right to adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living and to issues related to universal access to decent and sustainable housing in the elaboration of the post-2015 development agenda;

4. *Decides* to extend, for a period of three years, the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, and on the right to non-discrimination in this context, as set out in Human Rights Council resolution 15/8 of 30 September 2010;

5. *Notes* the work on the basic principles and guidelines on development-based evictions and displacement and the need to continue to work on them, including through consultations with States and other stakeholders;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to provide all necessary assistance to the Special Rapporteur for the effective fulfilment of his or her mandate;

7. *Notes with appreciation* the cooperation extended to date to the Special Rapporteur by different actors, and calls upon States:

(*a*) To continue to cooperate with the Special Rapporteur in the discharge of his or her mandate and to respond favourably to his or her requests for information and visits;

(*b*) To enter into a constructive dialogue with the Special Rapporteur with respect to the follow-up to and implementation of his or her recommendations;

8. *Decides* to continue its consideration of this matter under the same agenda item.

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[3] A/HRC/25/54.

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Human Rights Council
Twenty-fifth session
Agenda item 3
Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development

Albania,* Andorra,* Australia,* Austria, Belgium,* Bosnia and Herzegovina,* Bulgaria,* Canada,* Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia,* Cyprus,* Czech Republic, Denmark,* Estonia, Finland,* France, Georgia,* Germany, Greece,* Guatemala,* Hungary,* Iceland,* Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia,* Liechtenstein,* Lithuania,* Luxembourg,* Malta,* Monaco,* Montenegro, Netherlands,* Norway,* Peru, Poland,* Portugal,* Romania, San Marino,* Slovakia,* Slovenia,* Spain,* Sweden,* Switzerland,* the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey,* United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America: draft resolution

25/... Freedom of religion or belief

The Human Rights Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 36/55 of 25 November 1981, by which the General Assembly proclaimed the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief,

Recalling also article 18 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, article 18 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other relevant human rights provisions,

Recalling further Human Rights Council resolution 22/20 of 22 March 2013, and other resolutions adopted by the Council, the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights on the freedom of religion or belief or the elimination of all forms of intolerance and of discrimination based on religion or belief,

Reaffirming that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated,

Recalling that States have the primary responsibility to promote and protect human rights, including the human rights of persons belonging to religious minorities, including their right to exercise their religion or belief freely,

* Non-member State of the Human Rights Council.

Deeply concerned at continuing acts of intolerance and violence based on religion or belief against individuals, including persons belonging to religious communities and religious minorities around the world,

Underlining the importance of education in the promotion of tolerance, which involves the acceptance by the public of and its respect for diversity, including with regard to religious expression, and underlining also the fact that education, in particular at school, should contribute in a meaningful way to promoting tolerance and the elimination of discrimination based on religion or belief,

1. *Stresses* that everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief, which includes the freedom to have or not to have, or to adopt, a religion or belief of one's choice and the freedom, either alone or in community with others and in public or private, and to manifest one's religion or belief in teaching, practice, worship and observance, including the right to change one's religion or belief;

2. *Emphasizes* that freedom of religion or belief and freedom of expression are interdependent, interrelated and mutually reinforcing, and stresses further the role that these rights can play in the fight against all forms of intolerance and discrimination based on religion or belief;

3. *Expresses deep concern* at emerging obstacles to the enjoyment of the right to freedom of religion or belief, as well as instances of religious intolerance, discrimination and violence, inter alia:

(*a*) The increasing number of acts of violence directed against individuals, including persons belonging to religious minorities in various parts of the world;

(*b*) The rise of religious extremism in various parts of the world that affects the rights of individuals, including persons belonging to religious minorities;

(*c*) Incidents of religious hatred, discrimination, intolerance and violence, which may be manifested by derogatory stereotyping, negative profiling and the stigmatization of individuals on the basis of their religion or belief;

(*d*) Instances, both in law and in practice, that constitute violations of the fundamental right to freedom of religion or belief, including of the individual right to publicly express one's spiritual and religious beliefs, taking into account the relevant articles of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights as well as other international instruments;

(*e*) Constitutional and legislative systems that fail to provide adequate and effective guarantees of freedom of thought, conscience, religion and belief to all, without distinction;

(*f*) Attacks on religious places, sites and shrines, as well as vandalism of cemeteries, in violation of international law, in particular international human rights law and international humanitarian law;

4. *Condemns* all forms of violence, intolerance and discrimination based on or in the name of religion or belief, and violations of the freedom of thought, conscience, religion or belief as well as any advocacy of religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence, whether it involves the use of print, audiovisual or electronic media or any other means;

5. *Also condemns* violence and acts of terrorism, which are increasing in number, targeting individuals, including persons belonging to religious minorities across the world;

6. *Emphasizes* that no religion should be equated with terrorism, as this may have adverse consequences on the enjoyment of the right to freedom of religion or belief of all members of the religious community concerned;

7. *Also emphasizes* that States should exercise due diligence to prevent, investigate and punish acts of violence against persons belonging to religious minorities, regardless of the perpetrator, and that failure to do so may constitute a human rights violation;

8. *Urges* States to step up their efforts to promote and protect freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief, and to this end:

(*a*) To ensure that their constitutional and legislative systems provide adequate and effective guarantees of freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief to all, without distinction, by, inter alia, the provision of access to justice and effective remedies in cases where the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief, or the right to freely practise one's religion, including the right to change one's religion or belief, is violated;

(*b*) To implement all accepted universal periodic review recommendations relating to the promotion and protection of freedom of religion or belief;

(*c*) To ensure that no one within their jurisdiction is deprived of the right to life, liberty or security of person because of religion or belief and that no one is subjected to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, or arbitrary arrest or detention on that account, and to bring to justice all perpetrators of violations of these rights;

(*d*) To end violations of the human rights of women, and to devote particular attention to abolishing practices and legislation that discriminate against women, including in the exercise of their right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief;

(*e*) To ensure that no one is discriminated against on the basis of his or her religion or belief in their access to, inter alia, education, medical care, employment, humanitarian assistance or social benefits, and to ensure that everyone has the right and the opportunity to have access, on general terms of equality, to public services in their country, without any discrimination on the basis of religion or belief;

(*f*) To review, whenever relevant, existing registration practices in order to ensure that such practices do not limit the right of all individuals to manifest their religion or belief, either alone or in community with others and in public or private;

(*g*) To ensure that no official documents are withheld from the individual on the grounds of religion or belief and that everyone has the right to refrain from disclosing information concerning their religious affiliation in such documents against their will;

(*h*) To ensure, in particular, the right of all individuals to worship, assemble or teach in connection with a religion or belief and their right to establish and maintain places for these purposes, and the right of all individuals to seek, receive and impart information and ideas in these areas;

(*i*) To ensure that, in accordance with appropriate national legislation and in conformity with international human rights law, the freedom of all individuals, including persons belonging to religious minorities, to establish and maintain religious, charitable or humanitarian institutions is fully respected and protected;

(*j*) To ensure that all public officials and civil servants, including members of law enforcement bodies, and personnel of detention facilities, the military and educators, in the course of fulfilling their official duties, respect freedom of religion or belief and do not

discriminate for reasons based on religion or belief, and that all necessary and appropriate awareness-raising, education or training is provided;

(*k*) To take all necessary and appropriate action, in conformity with international human rights obligations, to combat hatred, discrimination, intolerance and acts of violence, intimidation and coercion motivated by intolerance based on religion or belief, as well as any advocacy of religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility and violence, with particular regard to persons belonging to religious minorities in all parts of the world;

(*l*) To promote, through the educational system and other means, mutual understanding, tolerance, non-discrimination and respect in all matters relating to freedom of religion or belief by encouraging, in society at large, a wider knowledge of different religions and beliefs and of the history, traditions, languages and cultures of the various religious minorities existing within their jurisdiction;

(*m*) To prevent any distinction, exclusion, restriction or preference based on religion or belief that impairs the recognition, enjoyment or exercise of human rights and fundamental freedoms on an equal basis, and to detect signs of intolerance that may lead to discrimination based on religion or belief;

9. *Stresses* the importance of a continued and strengthened dialogue in all its forms, including among individuals of, and within, different religions and beliefs, and with broader participation, including of women, to promote greater tolerance, respect and mutual understanding, and takes note with appreciation of different initiatives in this regard, including the Alliance of Civilizations and the programmes led by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization;

10. *Welcomes and encourages* the continuing efforts of all actors in society, including civil society organizations, religious communities, national human rights institutions, the media and other actors to promote the implementation of the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief, and further encourages their work in promoting freedom of religion or belief and in highlighting cases of religious intolerance, discrimination and persecution;

11. *Calls upon* States to make use of the potential of education for the eradication of prejudices against and stereotypes of individuals on the basis of their religion or belief;

12. *Welcomes* the thematic report presented by the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief on the need to tackle manifestations of collective religious hatred,[1] and the recommendations therein;

13. *Also welcomes* the work of the Special Rapporteur, and concludes that there is a need for the continued contribution of the Special Rapporteur to the promotion, protection and universal implementation of the right to freedom of religion or belief;

14. *Urges* all Governments to cooperate fully with the Special Rapporteur and to respond favourably to his requests to visit their countries and to provide him with all necessary information to enable him to fulfil his mandate even more effectively;

15. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to report annually to the Human Rights Council and to the General Assembly in accordance with their respective programmes of work;

[1] A/HRC/25/58.

16. *Decides* to remain seized of this question under the same agenda item and to continue its consideration of measures to implement the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief.

United Nations A/HRC/25/L.20

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Human Rights Council
Twenty-fifth session
Agenda item 3
Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development

Australia,* Austria, Belgium,* Bosnia and Herzegovina,* Botswana, Colombia,* Costa Rica, Croatia,* Czech Republic, Denmark,* Estonia, Finland,* Georgia,* Germany, Greece,* Hungary,* Iceland,* Ireland, Italy, Latvia,* Liechtenstein,* Lithuania,* Luxembourg,* Maldives, Netherlands,* Norway,* Panama,* Poland,* Republic of Moldova,* Slovakia,* Spain,* Sweden,* Switzerland,* Tunisia,* Turkey,* United States of America: draft resolution

25/... The promotion and protection of human rights in the context of peaceful protests

The Human Rights Council,

Reaffirming the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming also the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and recalling relevant international human rights treaties, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and relevant regional human rights instruments,

Reaffirming further that, consistent with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, States Members of the United Nations have pledged to achieve, in cooperation with the United Nations, the promotion of universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status,

Recalling Human Rights Council resolutions 12/16 of 2 October 2009 and 16/4 of 24 March 2011, on freedom of opinion and expression, 15/21 of 30 September 2010, 21/16 of 27 September 2012 and 24/5 of 26 September 2013, on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association, and 19/35 of 23 March 2012 and 22/10 of 21 March 2013, on the promotion and protection of human rights in the context of peaceful protests,

* Non-member State of the Human Rights Council.

Recalling also Human Rights Council resolutions 21/12 of 27 September 2012, on the safety of journalists, 24/8 of 26 September 2013, on equal political participation, 22/6 of 21 March 2013, on protecting human rights defenders, and 24/21 of 27 September 2013, on civil society space: creating and maintaining, in law and practice, a safe and enabling environment,

Recalling further the Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms,

Recognizing that, pursuant to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly, of expression and of association are human rights guaranteed to all, while their exercise may be subject to certain restrictions, in accordance with States' obligations under applicable international human rights instruments,

Recognizing also that any such restrictions must be based in law, in accordance with States' obligations under applicable international human rights instruments, and subject to a competent, independent, impartial and prompt administrative or judicial review,

Acknowledging that peaceful protests can occur in all societies, including protests that are spontaneous, simultaneous, unauthorized or restricted,

Acknowledging also that participation in peaceful protests can be an important form of exercising the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly, of expression, of association and of participation in the conduct of public affairs,

Recognizing that peaceful protests can make a positive contribution to the development, strengthening and effectiveness of democratic systems, and to democratic processes, including elections and referendums,

Acknowledging that peaceful protests can contribute to the full enjoyment of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights,

Reaffirming that everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person,

Reaffirming also that participation in public and peaceful protests should be entirely voluntary and uncoerced,

Stressing therefore that everyone must be able to express their grievances or aspirations in a peaceful manner, including through public protests without fear of reprisals or of being intimidated, harassed, injured, sexually assaulted, beaten, arbitrarily arrested and detained, tortured, killed or subjected to enforced disappearance,

Deeply concerned about extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment of persons exercising their rights to freedom of peaceful assembly, of expression and of association in all regions of the world,

Expressing its concern about the number of attacks targeting human rights defenders and journalists in the context of peaceful protests,

Expressing its concern also at the increasing criminalization, in all parts of the world, of individuals and groups organizing or taking part in peaceful protests,

Stressing that peaceful protests should not be viewed as a threat, and therefore encouraging all States to engage in an open, inclusive and meaningful dialogue when dealing with peaceful protests and their causes,

Recalling that acts of sporadic violence committed by others in the course of a protest do not deprive peaceful individuals of their rights to freedom of peaceful assembly, of expression and of association,

Recognizing that national human rights institutions and representatives of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, can play a useful role in facilitating continued dialogue between individuals taking part in peaceful protests and the relevant authorities,

Stressing the need to ensure full accountability for human rights violations or abuses in the context of peaceful protests,

Recalling the Code of Conduct for Law Enforcement Officials and the Basic Principles on the Use of Force and Firearms by Law Enforcement Officials,

Recalling also the importance of adequate training for officials exercising law enforcement duties assigned to deal with public protests, and of refraining, to the extent feasible, from assigning military personnel to perform such duties,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the holding of the seminar on effective measures and best practices to ensure the promotion and protection of human rights in the context of peaceful protests on 2 December 2013 and of the summary of the seminar prepared by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights,[1] in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 22/10;

2. *Recalls* that States have the responsibility, including in the context of peaceful protests, to promote and protect human rights and to prevent human rights violations, including extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, arbitrary arrest and detention, enforced disappearances, and torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, and calls upon States to avoid the abuse of criminal and civil proceedings or threats of such acts at all times;

3. *Calls upon* States to promote a safe and enabling environment for individuals and groups to exercise their rights to freedom of peaceful assembly, of expression and of association, including by ensuring that their domestic legislation and procedures relating to the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly, of expression and of association are in conformity with their international human rights obligations and commitments, clearly and explicitly establish a presumption in favour of the exercise of these rights, and that they are effectively implemented;

4. *Urges* States to facilitate peaceful protests by providing protestors with access to public space and protecting them, without discrimination, where necessary, against any form of threat and harassment, and underlines the role of local authorities in this regard;

5. *Underlines* the important role that communication between protestors, local authorities and officials exercising law enforcement duties can play in the proper management of assemblies, such as peaceful protests, and calls on States to establish appropriate channels in that regard;

6. *Urges* States to pay particular attention to the safety and protection of women and women human rights defenders from acts of intimidation and harassment, as well as gender-based violence, including sexual assault, in the context of peaceful protests;

[1] A/HRC/25/32 and Corr.1.

7. *Reaffirms* that States must take all necessary measures to ensure the safety and protection of children, including while they exercise their rights to freedom of peaceful assembly, expression and association, including in the context of peaceful protests;

8. *Calls upon* all States to pay particular attention to the safety of journalists and media workers covering peaceful protests, taking into account their specific role, exposure and vulnerability;

9. *Urges* all States to avoid using force during peaceful protests, and to ensure that, where force is absolutely necessary, no one is subject to excessive or indiscriminate use of force;

10. *Calls upon* States, as a matter of priority, to ensure that their domestic legislation and procedures are consistent with their international obligations and commitments in relation to the use of force and are effectively implemented by officials exercising law enforcement duties, in particular applicable principles of law enforcement, such as the principles of necessity and proportionality, bearing in mind that lethal force may only be used to protect against an imminent threat to life and that it may not be used merely to disperse a gathering;

11. *Affirms* that nothing can ever justify "shoot to kill" practices as well as indiscriminate use of lethal force against a crowd, acts which are unlawful under international human rights law;

12. *Calls upon* States to investigate any death or significant injury committed during protests, including those resulting from the discharge of firearms or the use of non-lethal weapons by officials exercising law enforcement duties;

13. *Also calls upon* States to ensure adequate training of officials exercising law enforcement duties and, where applicable, to promote adequate training for private personnel acting on behalf of a State, including in international human rights law and, where appropriate, international humanitarian law;

14. *Encourages* States to make protective equipment and non-lethal weapons available to their officials exercising law enforcement duties, while pursuing international efforts to regulate and establish protocols for the training and use of non-lethal weapons;

15. *Underlines* the importance of thorough, independent and scientific testing of non-lethal weapons prior to deployment to establish their lethality and the extent of likely injury, and of monitoring appropriate training and use of such weapons;

16. *Stresses* the importance of international cooperation in support of national efforts for the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the context of peaceful protests, in order to raise the capacities of law enforcement agencies to deal with such protests in a manner that conforms to their international human rights obligations and commitments;

17. *Underlines* the necessity to address the management of assemblies, including peaceful protests, so as to contribute to their peaceful conduct, and to prevent loss of life of, and injuries to, protestors, bystanders, those monitoring such protests, and officials exercising law enforcement duties, as well as any human rights violation or abuse;

18. *Recognizes* the important role played by national human rights institutions, civil society, including non-governmental organizations, journalists and other media workers, Internet users and human rights defenders, and other relevant stakeholders in documenting human rights violations or abuses committed in the context of peaceful protests;

19. *Urges* States to ensure that national mechanisms, based on law in conformity with their international human rights obligations and commitments, can deliver accountability for human rights violations and abuses, and provide victims with access to a remedy and redress, including in the context of peaceful protests;

20. *Requests* the High Commissioner to prepare, from within existing resources, guidelines for facilitating and protecting peaceful protests based on good practices, with a view to assisting States in promoting and protecting human rights in the context of peaceful protests, in collaboration with the Special Rapporteur on the rights to peaceful assembly and of association, the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions and other relevant special procedures, and in consultation with States and other relevant stakeholders, and to present those guidelines to the Human Rights Council at its thirty-first session;

21. *Decides* to continue its consideration of this topic at its thirty-first session under agenda item 3.

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Human Rights Council
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Agenda item 4
Human rights situations that require the Council's attention

Albania,* Andorra,* Australia,* Austria, Belgium,* Bosnia and Herzegovina,* Bulgaria,* Croatia,* Cyprus,* Czech Republic, Denmark,* Estonia, Finland,* France, Georgia,* Germany, Greece,* Hungary,* Iceland,* Ireland, Italy, Latvia,* Liechtenstein,* Lithuania,* Luxembourg,* Malta,* Monaco,* Montenegro, Netherlands,* Norway,* Poland,* Portugal,* Republic of Moldova,* Romania, San Marino,* Slovakia,* Slovenia,* Spain,* Sweden,* the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America: draft resolution

25/... Situation of human rights in Myanmar

The Human Rights Council,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenants on Human Rights, and reaffirming previous resolutions on the situation of human rights in Myanmar, the most recent being Human Rights Council resolution 22/14 of 21 March 2013 and General Assembly resolution 68/242 of 27 December 2013, and President's statement PRST/23/1 of 14 June 2013,

Welcoming the work and reports of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar, as well as the cooperation of the Government of Myanmar with the Special Rapporteur, including the facilitation of his visits to the country from 11 to 16 February 2013, 11 to 21 August 2013 and 14 to 19 February 2014,

Recalling Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, on institution-building of the Council, and 5/2, on the Code of Conduct for Special Procedures Mandate Holders of the Council, of 18 June 2007, and stressing that the mandate holder shall discharge his or her duties in accordance with those resolutions and the annexes thereto,

1. *Welcomes* the positive developments in Myanmar and the commitment of the Government of Myanmar to continue on its path of political and economic reform, democratization and national reconciliation and the promotion and protection of human rights, recognizing the scale of the reform effort undertaken to date;

* Non-member State of the Human Rights Council.

2. *Also welcomes* the continued engagement of the Government of Myanmar with political actors within the parliament, civil society and opposition parties, and urges the Government to continue constitutional and electoral reform in order to ensure that the general and presidential elections to be held in 2015 are genuinely credible, inclusive and transparent, allowing all candidates to fairly contest the elections;

3. *Welcomes* the increased space for political activity, assembly, speech and the press, and encourages the Government to fulfil its commitment to carry out comprehensive media reform and to protect the rights to freedom of expression, association and of peaceful assembly, including to allow for free and independent media and to ensure the safety, security and freedom of human rights defenders to pursue their activities;

4. *Welcomes* the continued and significant release of prisoners of conscience during the past year, and urges the Government of Myanmar to continue the important remaining tasks of the prisoner review committee aimed at the unconditional release of all political prisoners, including all political activists and human rights defenders detained recently, to continue working with the parliament to repeal existing legislation which is not in line with international human rights standards and to ensure the full rehabilitation of former prisoners of conscience;

5. *Expresses concern* about remaining human rights violations and abuses, including arbitrary arrest and detention, forced displacement, rape and other forms of sexual violence, torture and cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment, arbitrary deprivation of property, including land, and violations of international humanitarian law in some parts of the country, and urges the Government of Myanmar to step up its efforts to put an end to such violations;

6. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts aimed at reviewing and reforming legislation, including the Constitution, and stresses the need for and relevance of such reforms, recalls the importance of ensuring its compatibility with international standards and democratic principles, in this regard acknowledges with interest the draft legislation on the National Human Rights Commission intended to bring its functioning into line with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles), and calls upon the Government of Myanmar to continue legal reform, including by further repealing laws restricting fundamental freedoms, and to consider ratifying additional international instruments, including international human rights conventions, and incorporating these in national legislation;

7. *Encourages* the Government of Myanmar to take further steps to strengthen good governance and the rule of law, including through legislative and institutional reform, and to address the need for an independent, impartial and effective judiciary, and repeats its call upon the Government to take necessary measures to ensure accountability and end impunity, including by undertaking a full, transparent and independent investigation into all reports of violations of international human rights law and humanitarian law;

8. *Welcomes* the peace process efforts and the ensuing signing of ceasefire agreements between the Government of Myanmar and the ethnic armed groups and urges full implementation of these agreements, including for all parties to protect the civilian population against ongoing violations and abuses of human rights and international humanitarian law and for safe, timely, full and unhindered humanitarian access to be granted to all areas, and also welcomes the commitment of the President and his Government and the armed opposition groups to reach a nationwide ceasefire and pursue an all-inclusive political dialogue, notably with the participation of women, with the objective of achieving lasting peace;

9. *Urges* the Government of Myanmar to accelerate its efforts to address discrimination, human rights violations, violence, hate speech, displacement and economic

deprivation affecting various ethnic and religious minorities, to take all necessary measures to prevent the destruction of places of worship, cemeteries, infrastructure and commercial residential buildings belonging to all peoples and to ensure freedom of movement and equal access to services, including health and education;

10. *Reiterates its serious concern* about the situation of the Rohingya and other minorities in Rakhine State, including repeated instances of violence that led all communities to suffer tremendous trauma, and other abuses in the past year, including earlier this year in Du Chee Yar Tan, requesting that an independent investigation be undertaken into those events and that those responsible be held to account, about attacks against Muslim minorities elsewhere in the country and about intimidation of and threats to the United Nations and other humanitarian workers operating in Rakhine State; calls upon the Government of Myanmar to protect all civilians from violence, to ensure full respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, including full and immediate access to humanitarian assistance without discrimination, unhindered access by humanitarian agencies across Rakhine State and the safe and voluntary return of internally displaced persons and refugees to their communities of origin, to allow freedom of movement and equal access to full citizenship for the Rohingya minority and to address issues of land ownership and restitution of property; and, while welcoming some measures taken by the Government in this regard, encourages the Government to facilitate interfaith and intercommunity dialogue and address the root causes of the issue and to undertake full, transparent and independent investigations into all reports of human rights violations to ensure accountability and bring about reconciliation;

11. *Welcomes* the improved engagement and cooperation by the Government of Myanmar with the United Nations and other international actors, including the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict and the International Labour Organization, and the progress made towards ending recruitment and use of child soldiers in Myanmar and towards the elimination of forced labour, and calls for an extension and full implementation of the action plan to end and prevent the recruitment and use of children by the armed forces, and the implementation of other relevant agreements including the commitment to end forced labour by 2015;

12. *Expresses concern* at further delays, while recalling the commitment of the Government of Myanmar to open a country office of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, notes ongoing negotiations and calls upon the Government to promptly establish the office with a full mandate, including monitoring, reporting and technical assistance, and to specify a process for the opening of the office in accordance with the mandate of the High Commissioner;

13. *Encourages* the international community to continue to support the Government of Myanmar in the fulfilment of its international human rights obligations and commitments, the implementation of its democratic transitional process and its economic and social development, and encourages private companies to ensure that their investment and related activities respect human rights in accordance with the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights;

14. *Decides* to extend for one year the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the Commission on Human Rights and Human Rights Council resolutions 7/32 of 28 March 2008, 10/2 of 27 March 2009, 13/25 of 26 March 2010, 16/24 of 25 March 2011, 19/21 of 23 March 2012 and 22/14 of 21 March 2013 and, in addition, invites the Special Rapporteur to include in his or her next report, inter alia, further recommendations on the needs of Myanmar, including with regard to technical assistance and capacity-building and information on the progress in the electoral process and reform in the run-up to the 2015 elections;

15. *Calls upon* the Government of Myanmar to continue its cooperation with the next Special Rapporteur in the exercise of the mandate, including by facilitating further visits, while welcoming the cooperation of the Government with the Special Rapporteur, and calls upon the Office of the High Commissioner to provide the Special Rapporteur with all the assistance and resources necessary to enable him or her to discharge the mandate fully;

16. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to submit a progress report to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session and to the Human Rights Council in accordance with its annual programme of work;

17. *Expresses* its strong support for the good offices mission and commitment of the Secretary-General, and calls upon the Government of Myanmar to ensure full cooperation with the Secretary-General and his Special Adviser on Myanmar.

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Human rights situations that require the Council's attention

Albania,* Andorra,* Australia,* Austria, Belgium,* Bosnia and Herzegovina,* Bulgaria,* Croatia,* Cyprus,* Czech Republic, Denmark,* Estonia, Finland,* France, Georgia,* Germany, Greece,* Hungary,* Iceland,* Ireland, Italy, Latvia,* Liechtenstein,* Lithuania,* Luxembourg,* Malta,* Monaco,* Montenegro, Netherlands,* Norway,* Poland,* Portugal,* Republic of Moldova,* Romania, San Marino,* Slovakia,* Slovenia,* Spain,* Sweden,* the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America: draft resolution

25/... Situation of human rights in Myanmar

The Human Rights Council,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenants on Human Rights, and reaffirming previous resolutions on the situation of human rights in Myanmar, the most recent being Human Rights Council resolution 22/14 of 21 March 2013 and General Assembly resolution 68/242 of 27 December 2013, and President's statement PRST/23/1 of 14 June 2013,

Welcoming the work and reports of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar, as well as the cooperation of the Government of Myanmar with the Special Rapporteur, including the facilitation of his visits to the country from 11 to 16 February 2013, 11 to 21 August 2013 and 14 to 19 February 2014,

Recalling Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, on institution-building of the Council, and 5/2, on the Code of Conduct for Special Procedures Mandate Holders of the Council, of 18 June 2007, and stressing that the mandate holder shall discharge his or her duties in accordance with those resolutions and the annexes thereto,

1. *Welcomes* the positive developments in Myanmar and the commitment of the Government of Myanmar to continue on its path of political and economic reform, democratization and national reconciliation and the promotion and protection of human rights, recognizing the scale of the reform effort undertaken to date;

* Non-member State of the Human Rights Council.

2. *Also welcomes* the continued engagement of the Government of Myanmar with political actors within the parliament, civil society and opposition parties, and urges the Government to continue constitutional and electoral reform in order to ensure that the general and presidential elections to be held in 2015 are genuinely credible, inclusive and transparent, allowing all candidates to fairly contest the elections;

3. *Further welcomes* the increased space for political activity, assembly, speech and the press, and encourages the Government to fulfil its commitment to carry out comprehensive media reform and to protect the rights to freedom of expression, association and of peaceful assembly, including to allow for free and independent media and to ensure the safety, security and freedom of human rights defenders to pursue their activities;

4. *Welcomes* the continued and significant release of prisoners of conscience during the past year, and urges the Government of Myanmar to continue the important remaining tasks of the prisoner review committee aimed at the unconditional release of all political prisoners, including all political activists and human rights defenders detained recently, to continue working with the parliament to repeal existing legislation which is not in line with international human rights standards and to ensure the full rehabilitation of former prisoners of conscience;

5. *Expresses concern* about remaining human rights violations and abuses, including arbitrary arrest and detention, forced displacement, rape and other forms of sexual violence, torture and cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment, arbitrary deprivation of property, including land, and violations of international humanitarian law in some parts of the country, and urges the Government of Myanmar to step up its efforts to put an end to such violations;

6. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts aimed at reviewing and reforming legislation, including the Constitution, and stresses the need for and relevance of such reforms, recalls the importance of ensuring its compatibility with international standards and democratic principles, in this regard acknowledges with interest the draft legislation on the National Human Rights Commission intended to bring its functioning into line with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles), and calls upon the Government of Myanmar to continue legal reform, including by further repealing laws restricting fundamental freedoms, and to consider ratifying additional international instruments, including international human rights conventions, and incorporating these in national legislation;

7. *Encourages* the Government of Myanmar to take further steps to strengthen good governance and the rule of law, including through legislative and institutional reform, and to address the need for an independent, impartial and effective judiciary, and repeats its call upon the Government to take necessary measures to ensure accountability and end impunity, including by undertaking a full, transparent and independent investigation into all reports of violations of international human rights law and humanitarian law;

8. *Welcomes* the peace process efforts and the ensuing signing of ceasefire agreements between the Government of Myanmar and the ethnic armed groups and urges full implementation of these agreements, including for all parties to protect the civilian population against ongoing violations and abuses of human rights and international humanitarian law and for safe, timely, full and unhindered humanitarian access to be granted to all areas, and also welcomes the commitment of the President and his Government and the armed opposition groups to reach a nationwide ceasefire and pursue an all-inclusive political dialogue, notably with the participation of women, with the objective of achieving lasting peace;

9. *Urges* the Government of Myanmar to accelerate its efforts to address discrimination, human rights violations, violence, hate speech, displacement and economic

deprivation affecting various ethnic and religious minorities, to take all necessary measures to prevent the destruction of places of worship, cemeteries, infrastructure and commercial residential buildings belonging to all peoples and to ensure freedom of movement and equal access to services, including health and education;

10. *Reiterates its serious concern* about the situation of the Rohingya and other minorities in Rakhine State, including repeated instances of violence that led all communities to suffer tremendous trauma, and other reported abuses in the past year, including earlier this year in Du Chee Yar Tan, requesting that an independent investigation be undertaken into those events and that those responsible be held to account, about attacks against Muslim minorities elsewhere in the country and about intimidation of and threats to the United Nations and other humanitarian workers operating in Rakhine State; calls upon the Government of Myanmar to protect all civilians from violence, to ensure full respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, including full and immediate access to humanitarian assistance without discrimination, unhindered access by humanitarian agencies across Rakhine State and the safe and voluntary return of internally displaced persons and refugees to their communities of origin, to allow freedom of movement and equal access to full citizenship for the Rohingya minority and to address issues of land ownership and restitution of property; and, while welcoming some measures taken by the Government in this regard, encourages the Government to facilitate interfaith and intercommunity dialogue and address the root causes of the issue and to undertake full, transparent and independent investigations into all reports of human rights violations to ensure accountability and bring about reconciliation;

11. *Welcomes* the improved engagement and cooperation of the Government of Myanmar with the United Nations and other international actors, including the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict and the International Labour Organization, and the progress made towards ending recruitment and use of child soldiers in Myanmar and towards the elimination of forced labour, including the Government's agreement to an extension of the action plan to end and prevent the recruitment and use of children by the armed forces, and encourages its full implementation and also the implementation of other relevant agreements, including the commitment to end forced labour by 2015;

12. *Expresses concern* at further delays, while recalling the commitment of the Government of Myanmar to open a country office of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, notes ongoing negotiations and calls upon the Government to promptly establish the office with a full mandate, including monitoring, reporting and technical assistance, and to specify a process for the opening of the office in accordance with the mandate of the High Commissioner;

13. *Encourages* the international community to continue to support the Government of Myanmar in the fulfilment of its international human rights obligations and commitments, the implementation of its democratic transitional process and its economic and social development, and encourages private companies to ensure that their investment and related activities respect human rights in accordance with the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights;

14. *Decides* to extend for one year the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the Commission on Human Rights and Human Rights Council resolutions 7/32 of 28 March 2008, 10/2 of 27 March 2009, 13/25 of 26 March 2010, 16/24 of 25 March 2011, 19/21 of 23 March 2012 and 22/14 of 21 March 2013 and, in addition, invites the Special Rapporteur to include in his or her next report, inter alia, further recommendations on the needs of Myanmar, including with regard to technical assistance and capacity-building and

information on the progress in the electoral process and reform in the run-up to the 2015 elections;

15. *Calls upon* the Government of Myanmar to continue its cooperation with the next Special Rapporteur in the exercise of the mandate, including by facilitating further visits, while welcoming the cooperation of the Government with the Special Rapporteur, and calls upon the Office of the High Commissioner to provide the Special Rapporteur with all the assistance and resources necessary to enable him or her to discharge the mandate fully;

16. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to submit a progress report to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session and to the Human Rights Council in accordance with its annual programme of work;

17. *Expresses* its strong support for the good offices mission and commitment of the Secretary-General, and calls upon the Government of Myanmar to ensure full cooperation with the Secretary-General and his Special Adviser on Myanmar.

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Human Rights Council
Twenty-fifth session
Agenda item 9
Racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related forms of intolerance, follow-up to and implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action

Bangladesh,* Bolivia (Plurinational State of),* Brazil, Cuba, Ethiopia (on behalf of the African Group), Honduras,* State of Palestine,* Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of): draft resolution

25/... Mandate of the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance

The Human Rights Council,

Bearing in mind paragraph 6 of General Assembly resolution 60/251 of 15 March 2006,

Reaffirming the obligations of States under relevant international human rights instruments, in particular the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 2106 (XX) of 21 December 1965,

Recalling all previous resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly, the Commission on Human Rights and the Human Rights Council on the elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance,

Recalling also Human Rights Council resolutions 5/1, on institution-building of the Council, and 5/2, on the Code of Conduct for Special Procedures Mandate Holders of the Council, of 18 June 2007, and stressing that the mandate holder shall discharge his/her duties in accordance with those resolutions and the annexes thereto,

1. *Decides* to extend the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance for a further period of three years, in accordance with the terms of reference contained in Human Rights Council resolution 7/34 of 28 March 2008;

* Non-member State of the Human Rights Council.

2. *Requests* all Governments to cooperate fully with the Special Rapporteur in the discharge of his/her mandate, including by responding promptly to the Special Rapporteur's communications, including urgent appeals, and by providing the information requested;

3. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to submit an annual report to the Human Rights Council and to the General Assembly on all activities relating to his/her mandate with a view to maximizing the benefits of the reporting process;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to provide the Special Rapporteur with all the human, technical and financial assistance necessary for the effective fulfilment of his/her mandate;

5. *Decides* to remain seized of this priority issue.

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Human Rights Council
Twenty-fifth session
Agenda item 9
Racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related forms of intolerance, follow-up to and implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action

Bolivia (Plurinational State of),* Cuba, Ethiopia (on behalf of the Group of African States), State of Palestine,* Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of): draft resolution

25/... International Decade for People of African Descent

The Human Rights Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 68/237 of 23 December 2013 on the proclamation of the International Decade for People of African Descent,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the proclamation by the General Assembly in its resolution 68/237 of the International Decade for People of African Descent, effective from 1 January 2015 and ending on 31 December 2024;

2. *Emphasizes* the need to urgently heed the instruction of the General Assembly and, in this regard, requests the Intergovernmental Working Group on the Effective Implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action to dedicate its programme of work during its forthcoming twelfth session to the purposes of distilling the programme of activities from the existing draft Programme of Action for People of African Descent,[1] as already elaborated by the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent and welcomed by the Human Rights Council in its resolution 21/33 of 28 September 2012;

3. *Requests* in the above context the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent to optimally use its thirteenth session, scheduled for 31 March to 4 April 2014, to produce, as an assistance to the Intergovernmental Working Group and in their capacity as the authors of the draft Programme of Action for the International Decade on People of African Descent, a draft framework document in the form of a programme of activities for the International Decade for People of African Descent, which will serve as a basis for the programme of work for the Intergovernmental Working Group in this regard;

[1] See A/HRC/21/60/Add.2.

4. *Invites* the President of the General Assembly and his appointed facilitator for this purpose to participate in the forthcoming twelfth session of the Intergovernmental Working Group, as appropriate;

5. *Requests* the Working Group to present its final report in this regard to the Human Rights Council at its twenty-sixth session for its adoption and transmission to the General Assembly.

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Human Rights Council
Twenty-fifth session
Agenda item 3
Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development

Albania,* Andorra,* Argentina, Australia,* Austria, Belgium,* Bosnia and Herzegovina,* Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria,* Chile, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia,* Cyprus,* Czech Republic, Denmark,* El Salvador,* Estonia, Finland,* France, Georgia,* Germany, Greece,* Guatemala,* Honduras,* Hungary,* Iceland,* Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia,* Liechtenstein,* Lithuania,* Luxembourg,* Mexico, Montenegro, Netherlands,* New Zealand,* Norway,* Paraguay,* Peru, Poland,* Portugal,* Republic of Moldova,* Romania, Senegal,* Sierra Leone, Slovakia,* Slovenia,* Spain,* State of Palestine,* Sweden,* Switzerland,* the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia,* Turkey,* United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay:* draft resolution

25/... Mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders

The Human Rights Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 53/144 of 9 December 1998, by which the Assembly adopted by consensus the Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms annexed to that resolution, and reiterating the importance of the Declaration and its promotion and implementation,

Recalling also the continued validity and application of all the provisions of the above-mentioned Declaration,

Recalling further all previous resolutions on this subject, in particular, Human Rights Council resolutions 16/5 of 24 March 2011 and 22/6 of 21 March 2013 and General Assembly resolutions 66/164 of 19 December 2011 and 68/181 of 18 December 2013,

Recalling Human Rights Council resolutions 5/1, on institution-building of the Council, and 5/2, on the Code of Conduct for Special Procedures Mandate Holders of the

* Non-member State of the Human Rights Council.

Council, of 18 June 2007, and stressing that the mandate holder shall discharge his/her duties in accordance with those resolutions and the annexes thereto,

Emphasizing the important role that individuals and civil society institutions, including non-governmental organizations, groups and national human rights institutions, play at the local, national, regional and international levels in the promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all,

Reiterating the grave concerns expressed by the General Assembly in its resolutions 66/164 and 68/181 and by the Human Rights Council in its resolution 22/6 with regard to the serious risks faced by human rights defenders due to threats, attacks, reprisals and acts of intimidation against them,

Reaffirming that States are under the obligation to protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms of all persons,

Stressing that respect and support for the activities of human rights defenders, including women human rights defenders, is essential to the overall enjoyment of human rights,

1. *Welcomes* the work and takes note with appreciation of the report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders,[1] and strongly urges all States to take concrete steps to create, in law and in practice, a safe and enabling environment in which human rights defenders can operate free from hindrance and insecurity;

2. *Decides* to extend the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders for a period of three years in the same terms as provided for by the Human Rights Council in its resolution 16/5;

3. *Urges* all States to cooperate with and assist the Special Rapporteur in the performance of his/her tasks, to provide all information and to respond to the communications transmitted to them by the Special Rapporteur without undue delay;

4. *Calls upon* States to give serious consideration to responding favourably to the requests of the Special Rapporteur to visit their countries, and urges them to enter into a constructive dialogue with the Special Rapporteur with respect to the follow-up to and implementation of his/her recommendations so as to enable him/her to fulfil his/her mandate even more effectively;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to provide the Special Rapporteur with all the assistance necessary for the effective fulfilment of his/her mandate;

6. *Encourages* all concerned United Nations agencies and organizations, within their mandates, to provide all possible assistance and support to the Special Rapporteur for the effective fulfilment of his/her mandate, including in the context of country visits and through suggestions on ways and means of ensuring the protection of human rights defenders;

7. *Decides* to continue consideration of this issue in accordance with its annual programme of work.

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[1] A/HRC/25/55.